

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-30 and 81-113 are pending in the present application. Claims 2-11, 13-30, 85, 87-91 and 93 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1, 12, 81, 86, 92 and 105 have been amended. Reexamination and reconsideration of Claims 1, 12, 81-84, 86, 92 and 94-113, as amended, are respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 12, 81-84, 86, 92, 94-113 as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103 over U.S. 3,211,354 to Dugard (hereinafter "the '354 reference") in view of U.S. 4,269,343 to Siegel (hereinafter "the '343 reference") and U.S. 5,395,046 to Knobbe (hereinafter "the '046 reference.") Claims 1, 12, 81, 86, 92 and 105 have been amended. This rejection has been respectfully traversed with respect to claims 1, 12, 81-84, 86, 92, and 94-113, as amended.

A desoldering tool according to the present invention employs a solder storage which fits in a cavity defined in the side of a first handle. Claim 1, as amended, requires the first handle having "an opening in a side thereof defining a cavity adapted to releasably receive the storage" to retain the melted solder retrieved through the tip. In Fig. 1, the storage 14 is shown near an opening on the side of the first handle 12 which is defining the cavity 20.

The '354 reference of Dugard does not disclose or suggest the storage which is received in a cavity defined in a first handle. A tubular portion 22 is not even provided within a handle, but rather in a part of a heated tip. Even if the tubular portion 22 is somehow said to be located in the handle, it is not located in the side of the handle at all. It is certainly not in a handle "having an opening in a side thereof defining a cavity adapted to releasably receive the storage to retain the melted solder" as required by claim 1, as amended.

The '343 reference of Siegel does not make up the deficiencies of the '354 reference. A storage 72 is not accommodated or releasably received in the side of the handle. It cannot be removed and replaced through the side of the handle. It is therefore clear that the '343 reference, too, fails to disclose or suggest the first handle "having an opening in the side thereof defining a cavity adapted to releasably receive

the storage to retain the melted solder retrieved through the tip,” as required by claim 1, as amended.

The '046 reference of Knobbe, being directed to a spray gun with no need for a solder storage, also fails to provide the requisite first handle having an opening in a side thereof defining a cavity adapted to releasably receive the storage. It is clear that the three references, singly or in any combination, fail to disclose or suggest the desoldering tool according to the present invention.

Claim 12 has been amended to require a first handle having an opening in its side which defines a cavity adapted to accept the storage. Similarly, claim 81 has been amended to clearly define the first handle as “having a recess in a side of the first handle defining a cavity to releasably receive the storage.” Claim 92, as amended, requires a first handle having “an elongated side and an opening in the elongated side defining a portion of a cavity, the cavity adapted to receive the storage through the opening,” among others. Claim 105, as amended, claims an exterior side surface of the first handle having a recess defining a solder collection storage cartridge cavity. It is therefore clear that claims 12, 81, 92 and 105, as amended, are not disclosed or suggested by any of the references, singly or in any combination, for the same reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1, as amended.

Further, claims 95 – 100 depend from claim 1; claim 101 depends from claim 12; claims 82 - 84 depend from claim 81; claims 94 and 102 - 104 depend from claim 92; and claims 106 - 113 depend from claim 105. These dependent claims are allowable for the same reasons as stated above for their respective independent claims.

Claim 86, as amended, requires an elongated electrical cartridge, in addition to a heater cartridge. Fig. 1 shows a heater cartridge 16 and an electrical cartridge 30 according to one embodiment of the present invention desoldering tool. The '354 reference of Dugard fails to disclose or suggest an electrical cartridge. Nor is an electrical cartridge shown or suggested in the '343 reference of Siegel. The '046 reference is not cited for and fails to disclose or suggest the electrical cartridge. The three references, singly or in any combination, fail to come up with the desoldering tool of the present invention.

In view of the foregoing, the claims, as amended, particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention and are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the claims, as amended, are respectfully requested and allowance at an early date is solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 07-1853 (order No. 47434.57.)

Respectfully submitted,



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